



## Western Interoperability Consortium Meeting

By Pete Mohan [pmohan@mt.gov](mailto:pmohan@mt.gov)

The Western Interoperability Communications Consortium (WICC) met at the Lake County Courthouse Emergency Services Office in Polson Montana on October 14th, 2008. Consortium Project Director George Gupton reported on the recent Interoperability Montana Project Director's board meeting, the Governance Committee, and Staffing Subcommittee board meetings. George emphasized the first draft of the sustainability subcommittee was to begin the process of deriving fair and equitable methodologies to sustain the administration and infrastructure of the project. Board members discussed site requirements in Mineral and Ravalli counties to tie into the IM project. Sites will be evaluated in the November time period for coverage propagation. The group discussed the preparation requirements for application of the various grants for interoperability. The meeting was adjourned with the next meeting scheduled for 10:00 AM, Thursday, 20 November, 2008, in Plains, MT at a place to be determined.

## BNSF Meets with Lincoln & Flathead County Reps

By Pete Mohan [pmohan@mt.gov](mailto:pmohan@mt.gov)

On October 15, 2008, Bill Fleiner, IMGC Chair, accompanied by Kevin Bruski, IM Executive Director, Chris Christensen and Pete Mohan, Public Safety Services Bureau, met with Flathead County representatives Mark Peck, Director of 9-1-1, Cindy Mullaney, Emergency Services, Jack Spillman, County Sheriff Communications Chief, Lincoln County representatives Sheriff Daryl Anderson and Lt. Roger Guches, and Kevin Fitzpatrick, BNSF

Telecom Project Manager, at the Flathead County Health Building Conference Room. Requirements to finish communications sites in Lincoln and Flathead Counties was a topic of discussion. Kevin Fitzpatrick reported the sites are 90% ready for occupancy. During discussion, cost options and acceptance of assignments were made. Initial discussion of cost options to sustain sites was also discussed and as was BNSF POP sites connectivity along US Highway 2. Funding and technical options for build out and expansion of links were discussed and an agreement was reached on the best methodology to achieve interoperable communications. The next meeting is to be conducted on December 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM at the Flathead County EOC.

## I-15/90 Corridor Consortium

By Pete Mohan [pmohan@mt.gov](mailto:pmohan@mt.gov)

The I-15/90 Corridor Consortium met in Butte on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Project Director Dave McPherson directed the meeting. The reading of minutes from the last meeting was suspended. The group discussed radio installations from the FEMA Fire Grant and allocation of the radios. Technical Committee recommendations on the progress of the consortium communications sites were discussed and priorities allocated. Tom Smith, Northrop Grumman, briefed the board on different methodologies to complete the remaining consortium sites. Bob McPherson, IM Technical Committee Chair, briefed the group on the sustainability draft proposal of the Governance Committee and briefed the group on the previous Project Directors and IM Technical Committee meetings. Members of the consortium reviewed tower placement and construction requirements of the different sites and agreed on the site plans. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at



# HEARD ACROSS MONTANA

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10:00 AM at the Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, in Butte, MT.



**Above:** Photos of the Meyers Flat foundation pour that occurred recently. Depending on site access, they hope to erect the tower soon as well as pour the shelter foundation and propane pads.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Oct. 21

IM Technical Committee – Five-Year Planning Meeting

Billings • 8:30 am

Billings Hotel & Convention Center

1223 Mullaney Lane

### Oct. 21

Frequency Sub-Committee meeting

Billings • 1:00 pm

Billings Hotel & Convention Center

1223 Mullaney Lane

### Oct. 22-23

Montana APCO Conference

Billings • Billings Hotel & Convention Center

1223 Mullaney Lane

More information at: <http://www.mtapco.org>

### Oct. 27

IM Technical Committee (IMTC)

Helena • 9:00 am-3:00 pm

State Capitol, Room 172

### Nov. 5 (Wed.)

IM Finance Committee

Helena • 9:00 am - Noon

Anderson & ZurMuehlen • 828 Great Northern Blvd.

### Nov. 5 (Wed.)

IM Governance Committee

Helena • Noon - 5:00 pm

DOC Annex Conf. Rm.; Behind 515 N. Sanders St.

### Nov. 6 (Thurs.)

IM Project Directors (IMPD) Meeting

Helena • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

State Capitol, Room 152

### Nov. 6 (Tentative)

Northern Tier Consortium (NTIC)

Havre • 9:00 am

Great Northern Inn, 1345 1<sup>st</sup> St.

### Nov. 12

Central Consortium (CMICC)

Great Falls • 10:00 am

Wheat Building, 750 6th Street SW

### Nov. 12

South Central Montana Consortium (SCMIC)

Bozeman • 10:00 am

Emergency Operations Center, 219 East Tamarack

### Nov. 12

Eastern Tier Consortium

Glendive • 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Law Enforcement Center, 440 Colorado Blvd.

### Nov. 13

I-15/90 Corridor Consortium

Butte • 10:00 am

Chamber of Commerce; 1000 George St.